



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3731

Applicant: THOMPSON ET AL. Examiner: P. ROBERTS
Serial No.: 09/954,763 Group Art Unit: 3731
Filed: SEPTEMBER 17, 2001 Docket: 11576.51USII
Confirmation No.: 8878
Due Date: NOVEMBER 3, 2003
Title: CATHETER SYSTEM WITH SPACER MEMBER

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: , Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 3, 2003.

By: Anne Lee

Name: Anne Lee

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Response to Restriction Requirement
- ☒ Return postcard

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Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: Karen A. Fitzsimmons

Name: Karen A. Fitzsimmons

Reg. No.: 50,470

DSchmaltz/KAF/aml



09/954,763

T.H. 11-18-03

PATENT

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Signed: Anne Lee
Name: Anne Lee

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is being submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on October 3, 2003.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group II (1-21, 23, and 25-32) drawn to a stent deployment tool. Applicants further elect the stent deployment system shown in FIG. 1. Also, Applicants elect the specie of spacer tool shown in FIG. 15.

Claims 1-21 and 23 read on the stent deployment system shown in FIG. 1. Also claims 1-11, 13-14, 17-21, and 23 read on the elected specie of spacer tool shown in FIG. 15. Applicants wish to maintain pendency of claims 12, 15 and 16 in the event generic claim 1 is allowed.

It is further noted that claims 25-32 read on the stent deployment system shown in FIG. 1, however, the stent deployment system as recited in claims 25-32 may or may not be used with the spacer of FIG. 15.

Examination on the merits is respectfully requested. The Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney at 612/371-5340 with any questions or concerns.



Respectfully submitted,
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
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Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
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Dated: Nov. 3, 2003

Signed: Karen A. Fitzsimmons
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